KENNEDY 5/13/74

4TH ADD 1ST LD 178 XXX KENNEDY CASE.

MEANWHILE, WARD CAME UNDER STINGING ATTACK FOR RUNNING A "SIDESHOW" FROM LYNN C. COMPTON, ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE STATE COURT OF APPEAL.

COMPTON ISSUED A SEVEN-PAGE STATEMENT RECALLING HIS ROLE AS HEAD OF THE SIRHAN PROSECUTION DURING THE TIME HE (COMPTON) WAS CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

HE SAID HE HOPED " TO PREVENT THE PUBLIC FROM BEING DELUED INTO BELIEVING THAT PERSONS OTHER THAN SIRHAN SIRHAN WERE INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY."

COMPTON SAID THAT KEY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAD BEEN AWARE AT THE TIME THAT A CONSPIRACY THEORY MIGHT BE ADVANCED AT A LATER DATE. BECAUSE OF THIS, COMPTON SAID, ALL LEADS WERE PURSUED IN DEPTH.

" THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRETY OF THIS COORDINATED INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT, NOT ONE SCINTILLA OF EVIDENCE WAS EVER DEVELOPED TO INDICATE THAT THE ASSISSINATION OF ROBERT F. KENNNEDY WAS ANYTHING MORE THAN THE PRODUCT OF A SINGLE MIND -- THAT IS, THE MIND OF SIRHAN SIRHAN,"

COMPTON SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT NO OTHER PERSONS AIDED SIRHAN AND THAT THE KILLING WAS NOT THE RESULT OF ANY CONSPIRACY.

COMPTON COMPLAINED THAT THE HEARING WAS BEING CONDUCTED IN A FORUM "WHICH LACKS A MEDIUM OF SIMILARITY TO A A JUDICIAL PROCEEDING."

" THIS HEARING CAN ONLY HAVE AS ITS OBJECTIVE THAT OF CREATING SUSPCION IN THE PUBLIC MIND THAT OTHER PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ASSISSINATION HAVE GONE UNDETECTED," HE ADDED.

TE355PM